

# Publication Salford Local Plan: Development Management Policies and Designations

## Health Impact Assessment Addendum

### January 2021

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The [Publication Salford Local Plan Development Management Policies and Designations](#) (SLP:DMP) and its accompanying [Health Impact Assessment](#) (HIA) were published in January 2020. Comments were invited on the plan and the various supporting documents over a six-week period until Friday 20 March 2020.
- 1.2 Whilst it was anticipated that the Publication SLP:DMP would be the version of the plan that the city council would submit to the Secretary of State for examination, it is considered that a small number of modifications to some of the policies are required. As a result of this, an Addendum to the SLP:DMP has been published; this is in two parts and relates to Main Modifications, and Additional Modifications (February 2020).
- 1.3 Comments are being invited on all of the proposed modifications to the SLP:DMP between 5 February and 19 March 2021.
- 1.4 This document forms an addendum to the HIA which was published alongside the Publication SLP:DMP. No comments were received to the HIA when it was published in January 2020.
- 1.5 The purpose of this addendum is to provide an additional assessment of any differing impacts to those originally identified in the HIA as a result of proposed modifications to the SLP:DMP. This document will be submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the January 2020 HIA.

#### 2. Overview and Health Impact Assessment Addendum approach

- 2.1 The Draft Local Plan (2016) was not subject to a HIA. The Revised Draft Plan (2019) was however strengthened across a range of themes with linkages to health having regard to the comments received, updates to the evidence base, changes to national planning policy, and work on the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF).
- 2.2 The HIA published in January 2020 found there were various policies in the Revised Draft Plan which would have a positive impact on health. However, the assessment also identified possible gaps in policies requiring additional detail, or where the creation of new Local Plan policies or further guidance would be beneficial.

- 2.3 Overall, the HIA concluded that the Local Plan has a significant role to play in supporting health improvements, and that a significant number of changes had been made to the Plan which will have a positive impact on those that live, work and visit the city.
- 2.4 A series of modifications are now proposed to the SLP:DMP to address issues raised in the representations to it, and following changes to the Use Classes Order introduced by government in September 2020. Most of these modifications are minor i.e. either to correct typographical errors, improve clarity/consistency within the plan, or propose minor modifications to policies to respond to issues raised by statutory consultees. However, some of the modifications proposed are more substantial and are considered necessary to address issues raised regarding the plan's soundness.
- 2.5 This addendum does not set out an assessment of all proposed modifications. It only identifies the proposed modifications to the SLP:DMP which may have a differing impact on health to those already identified in the January 2020 HIA.

### **3. Assessing the impact of SLP:DMP Proposed Modifications Addendum**

#### *Community facilities protection*

- 3.1 The HIA identified that the Local Plan did not contain an overarching policy protecting existing community facilities. A new Policy TC5 (Community facilities) is proposed to be added to Chapter 12 of the SLP:DMP. The policy seeks to protect existing community facilities and provides policy guidance for the provision of new community uses. Community facilities can include community centres, places of worship, recreation uses, arts and cultural facilities, public houses as well as other local services such as health care facilities, libraries, schools and nurseries. By affording protection to existing community facilities this should benefit all who live in the city, and also have a positive impact on those who work and visit Salford.

#### *Local Green Space*

- 3.2 There are recognisable physical health and mental health benefits for all associated with having access to green space. Such spaces also provide opportunities for social interaction which can further benefit mental health. SLP:DMP Policy GI5 (Local Green Space) and the proposed Local Green Space designations identified on the policies map have been deleted from the SLP:DMP. The reason for this is that there is considered to be a relationship between this type of designation and development needs, as identified in paragraph 99 of the National Planning Policy Framework. This means that sites cannot be protected as Local Green Spaces until the city's development needs (i.e. how much housing and employment is needed) are understood and it has been determined how this development can be accommodated (i.e. what is the spatial distribution strategy and which sites in the city are required to be allocated to accommodate this development). The designations of these

sites as Local Green Spaces will therefore be deferred to part two of the Local Plan (Core Strategy and Allocations).

- 3.3 Although it is proposed that the Local Green Space designations are removed from Part 1 of the Local Plan (i.e. the SLP: DMP) and deferred to Part 2, these sites would still be provided significant protection through other designations that are appropriate for Part 1 of the Local Plan. For example, a number of the Local Green Space sites form part of the West Salford Greenway which is designated under policy GI4 of the SLP: DMP. Given this, it is considered that the deletion of Policy GI5 will have a neutral impact.

#### *Environment protection*

- 3.4 SLP:DMP policies GI2 (Chat Moss) and GB2 (Soils and agricultural land) have been modified to state that new, or extensions to existing, turf production operations will not be permitted on Chat Moss. Policy GB2 also states that elsewhere within Salford proposals for turf production will be closely examined in line with this policy. These changes strengthen the approach to addressing the causes of climate change and encouraging land use change which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

#### *Energy*

- 3.5 SLP:DMP Policy EG1 (Energy) has been added to, setting out that existing industrial and commercial processes that are located within district heat network areas, and generate waste heat, shall be encouraged to use that waste heat to contribute towards new energy needs. This change has the potential to reduce energy generation from other sources and therefore contribute to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3.6 SLP:DMP Policy EG2 (Renewable and low carbon energy schemes) has been added to, setting out that energy storage systems will be supported where consistent with other policies in the plan. This has the potential to positively contribute to climate change targets, as energy storage systems allow for electricity generated from renewable sources to be saved for later and used when it is needed.

#### *Housing*

- 3.7 SLP:DMP Policy H2 (Size of dwellings) has been modified to clarify that co-living developments do not have to meet national space standards. This may impact on younger people given that this housing model is aimed at such a demographic. However, criterion 1 of Policy D5 (Amenity) and criteria 3 and 4 in Policy D7 (Housing design) seek to ensure that acceptable amenity is provided. As such, the aforementioned change to Policy H2 is not considered to have a detrimental impact on health outcomes overall.

#### *Town centres and retail development*

- 3.8 It is already recognised in the HIA that convenient access to shops and services can positively influence local populations' health. The body of SLP:DMP Policy TC2 has been added to, and now confirms that within the proposed Salford Quays town centre, small scale shops and food and drink uses will be supported outside of its primary shopping area where they would positively contribute to the vitality and viability of the town centre and not detract from the successful functioning of the primary shopping area. This change should help residents to have more convenient access to day-to-day convenience goods.
- 3.9 SLP:DMP Policy TC1 has also been modified allowing for ground floor residential accommodation in local centres, subject to satisfying certain criteria. The provision of a range of residential accommodation is recognised to be one of the key determinants of health and as such, this change has a potential benefit health by increasing the residential offer within the city.

#### **4. Conclusions**

- 4.1 Having regard to the proposed modifications to the SLP:DMP, the overall conclusions set out in the HIA remain unchanged. The SLP:DMP has a significant role to play in supporting health improvements. Further details relating to this are set out in the recommendations and conclusions section of the HIA.